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The Progress of the Prussian Nation, 1805, 1831, 1842. By T. C. BANFIELD, Esq., F.S.S., of the Privy Council Office, Corresponding Member of the Central Statistical Commission at Brussels.

[Read before the Statistical Society of London, 20th December, 1847.]

ALTHOUGH this last valuable contribution to contemporary history from the pen of M. Dieterici is not a small work, yet it is easy to present a digest of its contents, suited to publication in a work of reference like the "Journal of the Statistical Society." The bulk of the volume is composed of reasons and facts adduced in justification of the figures which fill the tables. It will be sufficient, therefore, to say that every figure is accounted for in the fullest manner, and to refer to the original for the solution of any doubts that may suggest themselves on the perusal of the condensed results. This plan may be the more readily adopted that there is not the least appearance of exaggeration in any part of the work; and the result, the statements of the income and expenditure of an intelligent industrious people like the inhabitants of Prussia, will rather strike an English reader as being small in amount than the reverse. Upon this point we propose to offer some remarks later. Here we must state the plan which the Author has followed and the motives which induced him to take the course observed throughout his calculations.

The work arose from an inquiry instituted by the Author into the comparative wealth of the kingdom of Prussia at various periods in the present century. M. Dieterici found materials of a date as old as 1805, in a work published by M. Krug in that year, and which had been compiled, as far as was possible, from official data. Where such data were to be obtained, the task was not very difficult; but all old inquirers directed their attention to determining as far as possible the earnings of the nation. In this pursuit they necessarily took much for granted; since private accounts that are never published could alone disclose the whole truth. Dissatisfied with the sums assumed as manufacturing and trading profits, M. Dietrici came to a determination more in the spirit of modern science than his predecessors had shown. He reasonably concluded that the *consumption* of a nation, taken through a number of years, formed, perhaps, the nearest authenticated standard of the national *earnings* that could be obtained. What was consumed must previously have been earned; and even if the total consumption could not be minutely summed up at different periods, what could be traced laid a good foundation for proportionate calculations touching the remainder.

It remains, therefore, briefly to state the mode of calculating the consumption of the inhabitants at the three periods which the Author has selected for comparison, viz., 1805, 1831, and 1842. Agricultural statistics have ever been either publicly or secretly kept up by Governments that depended upon a land tax for revenue. In Prussia the governors of provinces have at all times made reports on the state of their districts which descend into minute details. From these it was possible to ascertain the quantity of land under tillage, the variety of the crops, and the results of the harvests. But there were, also,

means of reducing these calculations to greater exactness. Mills, in former times, were always an object of control. In Prussia a formal tax has long been, and is still, to a great extent, levied on corn ground, and on beasts slaughtered for consumption in towns. Tabular statements have been drawn up from the local registers, which are very authentic records, and these assist (the difference of means and of habits affecting town and country residents being allowed for,) in forming an estimate of the total consumption. For objects not strictly agricultural, the various excise and licensing duties, or the customs impost afforded a motive for recording weights and quantities which could be used for the calculation.

Basing his inquiry upon these data, M. Dieterici finds materials that establish a marked progress in social wealth, and he traces their connexion in a manner that is equally pleasing and instructive. The nature of the inquiry which is based upon the consumption calculated *per head of the population*, frees him from the necessity of following the changes of territory that took place during the war. The figures show the condition of the individual at each period indicated averaged over a nearly equal extent, and a number of inhabitants proportionate to that of the present kingdom of Prussia, although an exchange was effected, between 1806 and 1832, which gave to Prussia a large district on the left bank of the Rhine in place of territories that now belong to the kingdom of Hanover. It gives a peculiar zest to inquiries of this kind that they take *man* rather than *matter* as their main object, and show the power of the people to command supplies, rather than the accidental facilities that soil or climate present.

Many curious economical problems that have been started come under review in an inquiry of the kind. One of the first that we encounter is the highly interesting one of the results of an accumulation of population, for the well-being of a nation.

The kingdom of Prussia contained, in 1804, 10,023,900 inhabitants spread over a surface that gave an average of 1787 to the German square mile, or of only 84 to the English square mile. In 1832 the population, after the changes that have been named, was 13,038,960, with a mean density of 2,576 to the German, and 116 to the English square mile. In 1842 the total population was 15,471,765, and the proportions to the German square mile 3,045, to the English mile 144.

The area of the kingdom had been diminished nearly one-tenth between 1805 and 1847, by exchanges, which added the rich and industrious Rhenish province to the kingdom, and the apparent increase is equal to three-fourths of the original number, or 69 per cent. in 42 years. The determination of the real increase of the population of each province forms no part of the present inquiry.

The names of the provinces, as given in the following table, throw light upon the territorial changes effected after the war, when Prussia had given up East Friesland, Anspach, and Baireuth, as well as Warsaw, and received the present Rhenish province. The object kept in view by the author is to show that the increase of population generally has been accompanied with a more than commensurate exertion of power. He consequently goes no further into the question of the growth of the numbers of the people than is requisite to establish this fact.

Population of the Kingdom of Prussia, in the Years 1804, 1831, and 1842.

	German Square Miles.	1804. Population.	On the English Square Mile.	New Provincial Names.	1831. Population.	1842. Population.	On the English Square Mile. 1842.
East Prussia ..	704	553,849	64	East Prussia, 706·34	1,243,571	1,441,499	96
Lithuania	612	403,876		West Prussia, 471·69	782,536	964,881	96
West Prussia ..	612	786,858		Posen, 536·51	1,056,278	1,290,187	108
New E. Prussia ..	733	904,518		Brandenburg, 734·14	1,679,939	1,935,107	124
South Prussia ..	1042	1,402,367	63	Pomerania, 574·33	912,223	1,106,350	90
Kurmark	447	797,627	84	Silesia, 741·74	2,464,414	2,948,884	187
Neumark	220	317,810	68	Saxony, 400·63	1,449,587	1,683,906	172
Pomerania	464	509,617	51	Westphalia, 367·96	1,261,996	1,421,443	182
Silesia	714	2,019,651	133	Rhineland, 487·14	2,288,596	2,679,508	..
Magdeburg	106	297,039	132	..	..	..	..
Halberstadt, &c.	135	442,991	154	..	..	..	..
Minden, &c. ..	40	159,776	188	..	..	..	..
Munster, &c. ..	113	268,542	112	..	..	..	..
Mark, &c.	71	216,543	144	..	..	..	..
East Friesland..	60	119,803	94	..	..	..	..
Anspach, Bai- reuth, &c... }	135	505,434	176	..	..	..	..
Neuchatel	14	46,430	151	..	..	..	..
..	10,023,900		84		13,038,960	16,471,765	144

1 German square mile = 21·25 English square miles.

The consumption of the population is derived from an examination of all the returns made to the Statistical Bureau, but as these are defective at the first period, the necessary calculations are made upon data supplied by Krug's work. It appears from this, that 6 scheffels, or a little more than one quarter of mixed wheat and rye, was the estimated consumption for adults by the millers' experience. The meal tax levied in the towns shows a consumption for all ages not exceeding 3·8 scheffels, of 80 lbs. weight, and from these and other data it is assumed that the consumption may be calculated at 4 scheffels, or about 6 bushels, per head of the population.

This consumption for 10,000,000 persons gives..... 40,000,000 scheffels,
as the probable quantity used at home in 1805.

The exported quantity is taken at 4,000,000 ..

The average crop of bread corn exclusive of seed being..... 44,000,000 ..

In the years 1829, 1830, and 1831, the quantity of wheat
exported averaged 3,710,508 scheffels.

Rye exported 1,629,964 ..

The consumption of corn in the towns increased, between
1805 and 1831, 10 lbs. 12 oz. rye per head, with a
diminution of 1 lb. 10 oz. per head in wheat. Potatoes
had come much into use in this interval, but notwith-
standing this circumstance, M. Dieterici finds sufficient
grounds to assume, at the least, no diminished con-
sumption of grain. The increased population made a
production necessary of 4 scheffels per head, equiva-
lent to 52,000,000 ..

Total produce..... 57,340,452 ..

Consumption of Grain per head of the Population in Twelve Large Towns of Prussia, at Three Periods.

	1805.			1831.			1841.		
	Wheat.	Rye.	Total.	Wheat.	Rye.	Total.	Wheat.	Rye.	Total.
	lbs. oz.	lbs. oz.	lbs. oz.	lbs. oz.	lbs. oz.	lbs. oz.	lbs. oz.	lbs. oz.	lbs. oz.
Berlin	110 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	232 8	342 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	84 7	180 7	268 14	107 2	175 10	282 12
Breslau	86 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	250 8	337 $\frac{1}{2}$	521 0	256 6	309 0	150 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	227 14 $\frac{1}{2}$	378 11
Königsberg..	121 13	190 4	312 1	611 4	213 3	274 15	60 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	215 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	275 15
Danzig	121 1	226 12	347 13	45 5	220 12	265 15	52 14	232 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	284 31
Magdeburg...	122 9	293 12	416 5	119 12	248 9	368 5	102 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	236 15	339 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Potsdam	86 14 $\frac{1}{2}$	266 13	353 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	81 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	231 7	313 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	204 7	301 15 $\frac{1}{2}$
Stettin	111 3	267 1	378 4	101 2	249 0	350 14	106 14	312 14	419 12
Erfurt	55 11	267 7	323 2	67 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	347 14 $\frac{1}{2}$	415 8	50 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	358 3	408 15 $\frac{1}{2}$
Halberstadt .	64 15	312 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	377 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	65 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	286 2	351 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	84 11	315 8	400 3
Brandenburg	113 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	222 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	336 3	86 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	216 7	303 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	266 6	359 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Neisse	42 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	237 8	330 9	42 0	328 8	370 8	54 3	302 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	356 13 $\frac{1}{2}$
Glogau	67 12	168 9	236 10	52 19 $\frac{1}{2}$	296 6	349 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	58 8	257 2	315 10

The tables of the consumption in the large towns show, in 1842 over 1831, a great progress, both in the quantity and in the quality of the grain consumed for food. It was

1831.....	Wheat....	65 lbs. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	1841.....	Wheat....	78 lbs. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
„	Rye.....	240 „ 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ „	„	Rye.....	237 „ 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ „
306 „ 2			316 „ 12		

The increase is therefore 10 lbs. 10 oz. per head of the population, a large augmentation when the increase of the population is taken into account. At the same period the excess of exports of grain over the imports had also very much increased, being

Imported....	Wheat and spelt,	Scheffels.	Exported....	Wheat and spelt,	Scheffels.
„	Rye	52,970	„	Rye	2,808,254
122,640			6,873,341		

There are, therefore, data to warrant the conclusion that the arable land in Prussia produced, in 1805, 44,000,000; in 1831, 58,000,000; in 1841, 68,000,000 scheffels.

The growth of population within these periods had been, 1805, 1; 1831, 1 $\frac{3}{10}$; 1843, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

The production of grain had followed a more rapidly increasing progression; 1805, 1; 1831, 1 $\frac{7}{14}$; 1841, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

The number of head of cattle in the Prussian territory is shown to have been

	Black Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Figs.
	Head.	Head.	Head.	Head.
1805	4,856,068	1,923,932	10,394,428	2,447,044
1831	4,446,368	....	11,751,603	1,736,004
1842	5,042,010	2,587,039	16,235,880	2,115,212

There is no great numerical increase shown by this table, but there is reason to suppose that a great improvement took place in cattle breeding, which resulted in a much greater average weight of the beasts.

Average Weight of Cattle assumed in the Market Returns of the Slaughtering Tax.

	Oxen and Bulls.	Cows and Heifers.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1805.....	300	200	24	20	70
1836.....	555	350	46	41	141
1842.....	585	372	48	42	152

From the numbers and weights in these two tables a motive clearly existed for doubling the standard of weight between 1805 and 1842.

The consumption of meat has been assumed to average per head of population for the kingdom a little more in 1842 than in 1831, the increased weight of the beasts having been more than proportionate to the growth of population.

	1805.	1831.	1842.
Consumed per head....	33 $\frac{82}{100}$ lbs.	34 $\frac{74}{100}$ lbs.	35 $\frac{14}{100}$ lbs.

A means of controlling the calculated consumption of meat is afforded by the Excise Tables of the towns in which the grinding and slaughtering tax is levied. These tables showed the consumption of the largest towns to be

	1805.		1831.		1842.	
	lbs.	oz.	lbs.	oz.	lbs.	oz.
Berlin	83	6	104	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	116	13
Breslau	94	1	76	12	95	2
Königsberg	109	6	74	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	72	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Danzig	72	31	75	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	83	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Magdeburg	63	25	82	8	92	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Potsdam	62	22	84	0	101	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Stettin	88	9	72	0	104	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
Erfurt	65	23	71	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	75	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
Halberstadt	51	1	62	13	71	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
Brandenburg	56	2	51	3	78	14
Neisse	59	26	63	11	62	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Glogau	137	4	94	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	89	8

	1805.	1831.	1842.
No return.	15 $\frac{19}{100}$ quarts.	13 $\frac{11}{100}$ quarts.	
WHISKEY.			
No return.	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ quarts.	5 $\frac{82}{100}$ quarts.	
WINE.			
No return.	2 quarts.	2 quarts.	

TOBACCO.			
1805.	1831.	1842.	
No return.	3 $\frac{3}{10}$ lbs.	3 $\frac{1}{10}$ lbs.	
SUGAR.			
Colonial No return.	3 $\frac{453}{1000}$ lbs.	4 $\frac{38}{100}$ lbs.	
Molasses "	0 $\frac{764}{1000}$ "	0 $\frac{8}{100}$ "	
Beetroot ..... "	.....	1 "	
Estimate 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	4 $\frac{217}{1000}$ "	5 $\frac{56}{100}$ "	

Leather.—The tanned hide is estimated to weigh 45 lbs., and to cost 1*l.* 1*s.* The quantity of leather manufactured in Prussia was estimated, in 1805, at 600,000*l.* in 1831, 1,300,000*l.* in 1841, 1,620,000*l.*

The consumption was in the two last periods about 20 lbs. annually per individual.

Mining.—The following table shows the quantities and values of the minerals raised within the kingdom.

	1805.	1831.	1842.
Gold, marks.....	11 $\frac{43}{48}$	....	....
Silver "	8,028	19,031	21,798
Copper, refined, cwts.....	6,749	15,672	16,371
Lead "	7,683	15,499	26,779
Litharge "	7,285	32,536	12,712
Zinc "	16,169	111,143	276,126
Cobalt " .....	....	653	1,752
Arsenic "	1,740	3,466	....
Antimony " .....	....	....	1,784
Manganese " .....	....	1,359	5,588
Iron and Steel "	368,010	1,241,665	1,962,112
Sulphur	263	775	604
Coals, bushels	4,261,032	7,019,958	14,900,934
Lignite "	61,164	1,709,495	4,431,645
Salt, lbs.	96,236,000	175,687,098	200,968,000
Alum, cwt. ....	....	30,830	57,425
Vitriol "	4,528	39,233	36,727

Summary of Minerals Valued at the Place of Production.

	1805.	1831.	1842.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Metals	1,400,679	3,832,318	7,274,819
Combustibles	488,209	2,837,272	6,215,285
Salts	353,565	1,579,986	1,765,873
	2,242,453	8,249,576	15,255,977
	£336,368	£1,237,436	£2,288,896

CLOTHING. Woollens.—In 1805 it is assumed that $18\frac{1}{3}$ millions of lbs. of wool were produced from 11 million sheep. Imported 3,004,425 lbs., in all 21,337,758 lbs., giving 9,698,981 lbs. of cloth, or 9,092,795 ells, or half an ell per head of the population.

The consumption of woollen wares is calculated on the following principles. From 1 cwt. wool, cloth weighing 65 lbs. is made; 23 lbs. cloth give 32 Berlin ells. (In 1805 there was more coarse cloth used, and the proportion taken is 32 ells = 30 lbs.)

11,751,603 sheep gave in 1831	25,853,527 lbs. of wool.
Excess of export over import	4,081,330 „ „

21,772,197

Which measured by the proportions given above, would yield,	
12,865,389 lbs. of cloth, or	17,899,672 Berlin ells.
If we deduct as exported 2,908,840 „ „	4,047,082 „ „
9,956,549 „ „	13,852,590 „ „

being very nearly 1 ell per head of the population, or $\frac{3}{4}$ yard.

The average yield of wool is here taken very low, at about $2\frac{1}{5}$ lbs., long woolled sheep in England yield 10 lbs., and Mr. McCulloch's average for Great Britain* is based on a yield of $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per sheep. At this rate the production of wool in Prussia would amount to 60,000,000 lbs. The census of 1843 showed that there were in Prussia more sheep than in 1831,

Merino breed	1,804,853
Half-breed	2,493,036
Country breed	186,388

In all 1,484,277

There was also an increase of 5,770 looms in constant employment. From these data alone can it be argued that there was an increased consumption within the kingdom, the free intercourse within the Zollverein preventing any more accurate estimate for Prussia alone.

Linen.—The consumption in 1805 was estimated to be 4 ells per head of the population.

The production of linen is calculated from the number of looms that are rated to the industry tax.

	Ells.
Those in regular work in 1831 were 35,668, yielding at 5 ells daily....	65,000,000
As supplementary employment 216,780	33,000,000

98,000,000

Excess of exports over imports, 56,208 cwt., 1 lb. = 4 to 5 ells 24,000,000

Remain 74,000,000

Showing a consumption in the country in 1831 of 5 to 6 ells, or 3 to 4 yards, per head of the population.

	Ells.
In 1805, 4 ells per head internal consumption	40,000,000
Export	24,000,000

64,000,000

or but two-thirds of the production of 1831.

* 470,000 packs of wool, weighing 240 lbs. each, "Geographical Dictionary, England and Wales."

In 1841 the looms at constant work were 34,451, showing a Ells.
diminution of 1217. These at 5 ells = 62,873,035
Occasionally employed in 1843, 276,071 looms = 41,985,798

104,858,873

The excess of exports from the Zollverein was 70,719 cwts.,
making for Prussia, perhaps 30,000,000

Which leaves for home consumption.... 74,858,873
about the same with the consumption of 1831.

Cotton.—In 1805 the estimated consumption was something less
than $\frac{3}{4}$ ell ($\frac{1}{2}$ yard) per head.

The quantity of yarn spun within the kingdom was 630,656 lbs.

The excess of imports over exports 451,755 „

1,082,411 „

Assuming a loss in weaving of $\frac{1}{4}$, and that 40 ells of cloth weigh
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., the production was 7,216,080 ells.

In manufactured goods there was an excess of imports over exports,
which probably left 7,253,778 ells, or $\frac{7}{10}$, being a little under $\frac{3}{4}$ ell,
or half a yard, for the consumption per head of the population.

In 1831 Raw cotton imported..... 41,068 cwt.

„ „ „ exported 1,831 „

39,237 „ = 4,316,070 lbs.

The Prussian calculation is one-fourth waste 392,370 „

Leaves for yarn 3,923,700 „

Excess of imports over exports..... 10,859,420 „

14,783,120 „

This weight is assumed to be further reduced in other processes of
manufacture to 11,087,340 lbs., which, at 40 ells to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. weight,
gives

98,554,143 Berlin ells, and taking
6,132,622 „ „ as the excess of exports over imports

92,421,511 ells, or 7 ells per head of the population as the home consump-
tion of 1831.

A detailed analysis of the cotton manufacture and importation
in the whole Zollverein for 1840, 1841, and 1842, given by M.
Dieterici in his Statistical Report for those years, shows that the
home consumption of cottons in those years was 13 ells per head, or
between 8 and 9 yards.

Silk.—In 1805 the quantity of silk worked up in Prussia was
242,610 lbs., yielding perhaps 190,000 lbs. of textiles, which, as the
fashion ran on heavy stuffs, may be estimated at 15 ells to the lb.,
or, in all, at 2,850,000 ells

Exported 300,000 „

Consumption 2,550,000 ells
or about $\frac{1}{4}$ ell per head of the population.

The import of raw silk in 1831 was	6,076 cwt.	
Home production	20 "	
	6,096 "	
Excess of import of bleached and dyed	387 "	
	6,483 cwt., or 713,130 lbs.	
Excess of export of silk manufactures	5,241 "	or "
	1,242 "	or "

If 1 lb. be equivalent to 20 ells, this would give $14\frac{1}{2}$ millions ells, being a fraction more than $\frac{1}{3}$ ell per head of the population.

The average quantity imported, in the years 1840-1842, in the whole Zollverein, was 12,900 cwt.; which, after deducting the excess of exports, or 4,672 cwts., leaves, as the share for home consumption, 9 to 10 million of ells, or at the rate of $\frac{1}{3}$ ell per head.

The following table shows the state of the hand-weaver's trade :

Number of Looms in Constant Occupation.

	Silk and Half Silk.	Cottons.	Woollens.	Linens.	Hosiery.	Tapes and Ribbons.
In 1805 .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
„ 1831	8,956	25,464	15,360	35,668	2,110	32,642
„ 1841	16,911	47,747	17,911	34,451	2,272	....

Weaving by machinery is very little practised in Prussia. But spinning is carried on upon a large scale, especially in the Rhenish province, where there are mills with 20,000 and more spindles.

In general, however, the number of spindles is very small, since 136 cotton mills, the number in all Prussia, only count 150,436 spindles amongst them, or about 1,100 spindles per mill. The average in the Rhenish province is 2,690 spindles per mill.

3,300 carded woollen yarn establishments have	105,603 spindles,
649 for combed wool, have	47,083 "
17 flax spinning-mills have	27,819 "

Trade.—A very elaborate investigation into the trade reports is summed up by M. Dieterici, in the following manner. For 1840 to 1842 it was necessary to calculate approximatively the value of the special trade of Prussia from that of the Zollverein, in which it is now included.

The valuations are very difficult to determine of these different items. In 1831 it would seem as if the values of the exported manufactured goods were rated too high, being fixed at 60,491,243 dollars, while the raw and half manufactured materials were only valued at 29,630,599 dollars. In 1840 to 1842 the proportions are better observed; the exported manufactures being valued at 86,298,307 dollars, but the imported materials, raw and half manufactured, being valued at 74,314,163 dollars.

IMPORTS.			
	1805.	1831.	1840-1842.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Eatables	6,369,242	5,438,939	5,036,159
Liquors	3,809,926	1,397,168	1,089,191
Colonial Wares, &c.	14,537,708	16,238,042	16,498,617
Manufacturing Materials	9,803,732	29,630,599	40,292,930
Manufactures	14,748,974	17,902,194	14,758,806
Other Goods	4,072,374	14,575,356	16,614,636
	53,341,956	85,182,298	94,290,339

EXPORTS.			
	51,567,053	106,466,007	95,000,000

From the preceding statements it appears that the progress of material improvement in Prussia within the present century has been steady, if not very rapid. The population increasing at a ratio exceeding 1 per cent. per annum, now doubles itself in periods of about 70 years, and we have seen by the opening statement that within 40 years, of which 10 were years of war, it had increased by one-half.

Up to the present moment there has, however, been little pressure from the growth of the population. It is, with the exception of a few districts, scattered over a vast extent of country, the average density in 1842 having been 144 to the English square mile. For habitations there is, therefore, room enough, and the laws of 1811 converted the peasant population into small proprietors. At the same time the claim upon the forests adjacent to each village was secured by law to the villagers; fuel being recognised as equally essential with food in a cold climate. The change induced a faulty organisation of industry, since it operated as a bribe upon too many hands to devote themselves to the cultivation of the soil, yet we must add the comforts and advantages accruing from the independence secured to a scattered population, a large portion of which was, by these enactments, released from serfage by such a measure, to the comforts which the concluding table, given by M. Dieterici, shows the people of Prussia now command, if we would form an estimate of their condition.

If we calculate the amount of the consumption of each individual in Prussia in the year 1843, at the prices of that year, the total price shows a cheapening on the whole as compared with the prices of 1831, of $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and as compared with 1805, of $8\frac{2}{3}$ per cent.

On the other hand, if we compare the small consumption of 1805, at the then existing prices, with the large consumption of 1843, at the reduced prices, the increased earnings of each individual ought, in the latter year, to equal $92\frac{2}{3}$ per cent.

Average Consumption per head of the Population, Calculated at Three Periods 1806, 1831, and 1842.

1806.			1831.			1842.		
Quantity.	Price.	Value.	Quantity.	Price.	Value.	Quantity.	Price.	Value.
4 scheffel corn, { chiefly rye}	1 dol.	Dols. Gros Pfen. 4 0 0	4 scheffel corn, { chiefly rye}	2 dols.	Dols. Gros Pfen. 8 0 0	4 scheffel corn, { chiefly rye}	2 dols.	Dols. Gros Pfen. 8 0 0
33 lbs. meat	2 gros	2 6 0	34½ lbs. meat	2½ gros	3 5 6	35 lbs. meat	2½ gros	3 6 3
15 quarts beer	2½ dol.	0 9 0	15 quarts beer	1½ dols.	0 13 6	13 quarts beer	1½ dols.	0 11 8
3 " whiskey	3½ gros	0 11 3	8 " whiskey	3½ gros	0 28 0	6 " whiskey	3½ gros	0 21 0
2 " wine	10 "	0 7 6	2½ " wine	10 "	0 25 0	2 " wine	10 "	0 20 0
1½ lbs. rice	1½ dol.	0 1 0	1½ lb. rice	1½ dol.	0 1 6	1½ lbs. rice	1½ dol.	0 1 7
7 gros	7 gros	0 10 6	4½ lbs. sugar	6 gros	0 26 3	5 " sugar	5½ gros	0 26 3
6 "	6 "	0 4 0	2½ " coffee	6 "	0 13 9	2½ " coffee	5 "	0 12 6
Spices .....	...	0 3 0	Spices .....	...	0 3 6	Spices .....	...	0 3 6
17 lbs. salt	1½ gros	0 21 3	17 lbs. salt	1½ gros	0 21 3	17 lbs. salt	1 gros	0 17 0
1½ " tobacco	4 "	0 6 0	3½ " tobacco	3 "	0 9 11	3½ " tobacco	3 gros	0 9 4
1 to 2 ell cloth	1½ dol.	0 21 0	1 ell cloth	1½ dol.	1 15 0	1½ ell cloth	1½ dol.	2 0 0
4 ells linen	7½ gros	1 0 0	5½ ells linen	7½ gros	1 11 3	5 ells linen	7½ gros	1 7 6
2 ell cotton	20 "	0 15 0	7 " cotton	6 gr. 1½ pf.	1 12 10	13 " cotton	6 "	2 18 0
1 " silk	1 dol.	0 7 6	3½ " silk	25 gros	0 8 6	3 " silk	25 "	0 9 4
Leather .....	...	0 12 0	Leather .....	...	0 20 0	Leather .....	...	0 20 0
		11 15 0			21 5 9			22 3 11
			The same consumption valued { at the current prices of 1806 }			Valued at the prices of 1831		
						" prices of 1806		
						22 16 6		
						23 28 6		

The dollar in Prussia is equal to 3 shillings English. The dollar has 30 gros; 10 gros = 1 shilling; the gros has 12 pfennige; therefore 1 pfen. = $\frac{1}{3}$ shilling, = 1½d.

General fall in prices from 1805 to 1831 was as 100 to 94 = 6 per cent.
 And from 1831 to 1842 100 to 98 = 2 ,,
 Consequently from 1806 to 1842 100 to 92 = 8 ,,

The increased consumption was, in 1831 over

1805, in the ratio of 100 to 184
 And in 1842 over 1831, as 100 to 183
 In 1842 over 1805, as 100 to 196·4

In the table resuming this interesting inquiry, the prices of home produce are estimated to have risen, and those of manufactured goods, as well as of colonial produce, to have fallen proportionately. The former (the rise of home produce) is of course a detraction from the gain ensuing on manufacturing improvements, in so far as it bears upon articles of the first necessity, and is not the result of a transition to luxurious cultivation.

But although M. Dieterici devotes attention specially to the consumption of the population, he gives some statements which illustrate the national savings; and the mode adopted of applying such in Prussia; the mode of treating this part of his subject, which he only introduces incidentally, is by no means exhaustive, nor are the data furnished regarded as complete.

The handicraft trades in which labour is chiefly aided by circulating capital had increased in the following proportions:—

1831.		1841.	
Masters.	Apprentices and Workmen.	Masters.	Apprentices and Workmen.
328,285	183,914	400,932	309,570

Or, with an increase of population equivalent to 18·66 per cent.

The number of masters had increased 22·13 ,,
 Apprentices and Workpeople 68·32 ,,

The number of Weavers' looms increased from 310,739 to 401,275

Or, in the proportion of 29 per cent.

Half silk and Silk looms 89 ,,
 Cotton looms 88 ,,

In linen there was a diminution.

Factories or establishments in which fixed capital is used as an accessory to labour, are enumerated as follows:—

	1831.	1841.
Cotton Mills .....	....	{ 136 with 150,436 spindles
Carding Wool .....	....	{ 3,300 with 405,603 ,,
Combing Wool .....	....	{ 649 with 47,061 ,,
Flax Mills .....	....	{ 17 with 27,819 ,,
Brick and Tile Kilns	3,249	5,165
Lime Kilns	1,392	2,197
Glass Houses	96	114
Tar Furnaces	669	723
Iron Hammers.....	1,148	1,178

	1831.	1841.
Copper Hammers	93	73
Corn { Water power	13,949	14,220
Mills. { Wind do.	9,764	10,572
{ Horse do.	687	374
Oil, Fulling, and Tan Mills	4,219	6,671
Paper Mills	417	455
Saw Mills.....	2,319	2,527
Sugar Refiners.....	{ 74, working 449,025 cwts.	{ 61, working 946,853 cwts.
Beet Root Sugar Mills	{ 90, producing 19,925 cwts.	{ 99, producing 189,281 cwts.

The number of public buildings was, at the two periods, compared,

	1831.	1842.
For religious purposes.....	16,881	16,668
For secular purposes	53,546	59,465
Private Houses	1,699,035	1,874,472
Factories, Mills, Warehouses....	99,131	110,161
Stables, Barns, &c.....	1,648,941	2,028,107

The insured value of these buildings increased, from returns obtained from the insurance offices, from 748,909,055 dollars in 1832, to 1,103,454,496 dollars in 1842, or in the proportion of 100 : 147.

The progress in the inland navigation is shown by the number of barges on rivers and canals.

1831.		1843.	
Vessels.	Burthen.	Vessels.	Burthen.
7,760	163,306 lasts.	12,186	313,748 lasts.

The last is 4000 lbs. Prussian, or something less than two tons.

The ocean navigation had advanced more slowly.

1831.		1842.	
Vessels.	Burthen.	Vessels.	Burthen.
662	76,987 lasts.	799	108,791 lasts.

The length of macadamised roads in Prussia was, in 1831, 848,623, in 1843, 1,383,324 German miles. This only shows the roads maintained by the Crown. The German mile is equal to 4 geographical, or $4\frac{3}{4}$ common, miles approximatively.

The length of railroads opened in 1845 was 127,376 German miles, which cost, on an average, 298,393 dollars per mile, being equivalent to about 726 English miles, at a cost of 7,851 $\frac{1}{2}$ per mile.